

Resolution No. 2017-38

A Resolution petitioning the City's State Senator and Representatives To intervene with DelDOT on the proposed elimination of the traffic signal at Delaware Street and 6th Street

WHEREAS, the State of Delaware Department of Transportation (DelDOT) has made the City Council aware of its likely plans to eliminate the traffic control signal at the intersection of Delaware Street and 6th Street in the City of New Castle and in its place establish a 4 way stop sign intersection at this location; and

WHEREAS, DelDOT representatives agreed to perform further investigative studies to substantiate their initial conclusion that the traffic signal is unnecessary; and

WHEREAS, before a final decision is made by DelDOT the City believes that it is essential that the City's State Senator and Representatives are advised of the situation and the deep concerns the City Council has with the proposed plan to eliminate the traffic signal; and

WHEREAS, those concerns include:

1. 6th Street is a part of State Route 9 and Delaware Street is the main entryway to the downtown business district making this one of the most heavily travelled intersection in a corridor of closed sided historic homes;
2. The proposal to eliminate the traffic signal is largely based on monetary considerations as opposed to the interests of City residents accustomed to, and desirous of, maintaining the existing traffic signal; and
3. The City Council believes elimination of the traffic signal will cause imminent danger to vehicular and pedestrian traffic who are long accustomed to the existing traffic light; and

WHEREAS, the City does not request or desire that DelDOT fund a new traffic signal at this location, but rather requests that DelDOT maintain the status quo with the existing traffic signal; and

WHEREAS, the City Council believes that a municipality should have the right to determine what's best for its residents, especially concerning matters of safety and well-being.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW CASTLE HEREBY RESOLVES to notify State Senator Poore and Representatives Mulrooney and Johnson of its deepest concerns about the proposed elimination of the traffic signal at 6th and Delaware Streets in the City of New Castle and its conversion to a 4 way stop sign controlled intersection, and to request their intervention with DelDOT to maintain the existing traffic signal at that location for the indefinite future.

Passed this 14th day of November, 2017.

Linda Ratchford, City Council President

John A. Di Mondì, Councilperson

Valarie W. Leary, Councilperson

Michael J. Quaranta, Councilperson

Michael M. Platt, Councilperson

Attest:

Brian G. Whitaker, City Clerk